

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 ACDA-19 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00

XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 OMB-01 RSR-01 /181 W

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R 180818 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7873

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, KS

SUBJ: PRIME MINISTER REVIEWS ROKG POLICY

SUMMARY: PRIME MINISTER'S MAY 18 POLICY BRIEFING TO NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WAS GENERAL REVIEW OF FAMILIAR POLICIES ON UNIFICATION, FOREIGN POLICY, NATIONAL DEFENSE AND ECONOMIC PLANS.

1. PRIME MINISTER KIM CHONG-PIL DELIVERED POLICY BRIEFING TO NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MAY 18. SPEECH WAS 30-MINUTE GENERAL REVIEW OF ESTABLISHED ROKG POLICIES, WITH THE MAJOR EMPHASIS GOING TO GOVERNMENT PLANS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

2. KIM OPENED BY DESCRIBING PRESIDENT'S OCTOBER REVITALIZATIONS IN NATIONALISTIC TERMS, SAYING ROK HAD "ESCAPED FROM SUPERFICIAL IMITATION OF WESTERN DEMOCRACY." CALLING THE OCTOBER REVITALIZATION "AN EXPRESSION OF THE WILL OF THE KOREAN PEOPLE FOR UNIFICATION", KIM WARNED THAT THIS GOAL WOULD NOT BE ACHIEVED SOON BUT THAT ROKG WOULD PROCEED GRADUALLY AND CAUTIOUSLY. TURNING TO FOREIGN POLICY, PRIME MINISTER PROMISED THAT

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GOVERNMENT WOULD " WATCH CLOSELY THE CHANGING WORLD SITUATION" AND ADOPT POLICIES WHICH WOULD BE " FLEXIBLE... INDEPENDENT AND REALISTIC." HE EMPHASIZED TIMES WITH U. S., PARTICULARLY THE MUTUAL SECURITY RELATIONSHIP, AND JAPAN, AS WELL AS REITERATING ROK INTEREST IN " IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH ALL COMMUNIST NATIONS WHICH ARE NOT HOSTILE TO US."

3. ON NATIONAL DEFENSE, KIM STRESSED " INDEPENDENT DEFENSE POSTURE" FEATURING MODERNIZATION OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND FOSTERING OF DEFENSE INDUSTRIES.

4. LENGTHY SECTION ON ECONOMY DESCRIBED PLANS TO ACHIEVE PRESIDENT' S AMBITIOUS TARGETS FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH BY EARLY 1980' S. PARTICULAR EMPHASIS WAS GIVEN TO NEED TO EXPAND HEAVY INDUSTRY, INCLUDING STEEL MANUFACTURE, SHIPBUILDING AND PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRIES.

5. COMMENT: MORE THAN HALF OF PRIME MINISTER' S BRIEFING COVERED ECONOMIC SUBJECTS, WHICH HE COVERED IN SOME DETAIL. OTHER MAJOR POLICY QUESTIONS WERE GIVEN ONLY GENERAL TREATMENT IN NON- CONTENTIOUS TERMS. SPEECH WAS WRITTEN BEFORE WHO DEFEAT, WHICH WAS NOT MENTIONED OR ALLUDED TO IN TEXT.

6. ASSSEMBLY ADJOURNED IMMEDIATELY AFTER PM' S PRESENTATION AND WILL CONVENE AT 1000 HOURS MAY 19 FOR INTERPELLATIONS OF PM BY NDP CHAIRMAN YU CHIN SAN. PM DEPARTS ON EUROPEAN TRIP AT 1330. DECON5-18-76.
HABIB

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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